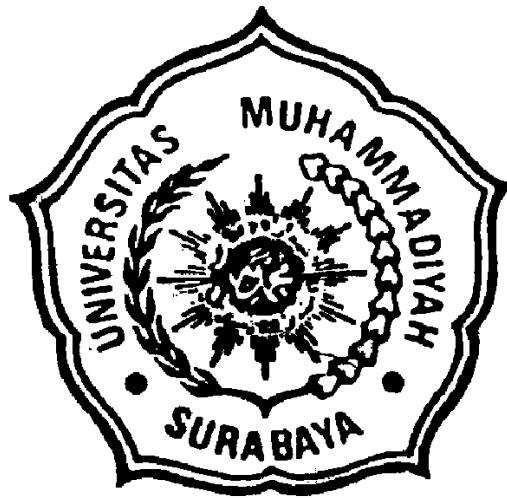


**THE KILLING OF LENNIE: A STUDY OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS AND
THEIR CONFLICTS IN STEINBECK'S *OF MICE AND MEN***



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**PROGRAM STUDI BAHASA INGGRIS
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SKRIPSI

**Submitted as partial fulfillment for the S₁ degree of English Education in Teacher
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ABSTRACT

Novel is one of literature genres. *Of Mice and Men* is a novel written by Nobel Prize-winning author John Steinbeck. Published in 1937, it tells about the tragic story of George Milton and Lennie Small, two displaced migrant ranch workers during the Great Depression in California. From a strong friendship, their quest in life is simple- to become settled and end their roaming lifestyle. However, George, the father-figure, has a responsibility to keep an eye on Lennie to survive in his life. But at the end of the story George killed Lennie. Base on the background stated above, the problems in this thesis are stated as follows: (1) What are the characteristics of George and Lennie? (2) What are the conflicts of George and Lennie? (3) Why does George Kills Lennie. Therefore, the purposes of the study are: (1) To describe George and Lennie's characteristics in Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. (2) To identify George and Lennie's conflicts depicted in Steinbeck's *Of Mice and men*. (3) To find out why George kills Lennie.

It is needed to apply some references in order to analyze dealing with the statement of the problems such as: Theory of character by E.M. Forster, Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacobs, and Laurence Perrine; further more, it is very essential to apply theory of frustration and its sources by Freud; Worchel and Geothals, who state that frustration occurs when an important need or motive can't be satisfied, Failing in this, one may become frustrated and act irrationally. Furthermore, some data are from internet. In analyzing this thesis, descriptive qualitative method was used. The data were collected through library research and classified into two groups, main data and supporting data. The main data are the resources taken from the novel itself and Supporting data of this study is some references that relating to the main data, they are: literary theories, literature critics, book of biography the author, article, sources from internet, books of psychology and other reference are all resources related to the main data.

It has been analyzed in chapter 4, George's killing Lennie are related to their characters and conflicts. From the discussion it can be seen that George and Lennie's character can influence their conflicts of life. We can see that frustration can guides George take an irrational decision, killing Lennie. Things can not be worse if the conflicts that Lennie has never occurred. And the conflicts did not appear if George is not an easily frustrated man and Lennie is not mentally retarded.

Finally, the writer can find out that George finally chooses to kill Lennie himself. He thought that he was doing the right thing in helping a man that couldn't help himself. Lennie was the victim uncontrolled one's ego and let frustrated hold him when he can not get his important goal or the goal of his id, was denied. So he can not back to the reality fact and can not think clearly. But the ones who were hurting the murderers became murderers themselves. They did not have the right to kill Lennie. The popular saying about this suggestion is, too wrongs do not make a right.

The Writer

PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN TULISAN

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Menyatakan dengan sebenarnya bahwa skripsi (Tugas Akhir) yang saya tulis ini benar-benar merupakan hasil karya saya sendiri, bukan merupakan pengambilalihan, tulisan atau pikiran orang lain yang saya akui sebagai hasil tulisan atau pikiran saya sendiri.

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Surabaya,

Yang membuat pernyataan

Iis Tri Wijiastuti

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